

Arlington Historical Commission
Minutes for the Meeting of
Tuesday, 6 December 2016
Whittemore-Robbins House, 7:45 p.m.

1. Call to Order: Commissioners Patrick Guthrie, Eric Stange, Dianne Schaefer, Pam Meister, and Chair, JoAnn Robinson.
2. Review of minutes: Reviewed minutes from November 2, 2016. Accepted with edits.
3. Communications Received:
 - Inquiry as to whether 28 Draper Avenue is on the Inventory.
 - Message from architect working on the Whittemore Robbins Carriage House.
 - Laurie Abrams Hall from 54 Winter Street. She has general questions about the process and what it actually means to be listed on the Inventory.
 - Tim Powderly from Seaver Construction for demolition permit for 197 Wachusett Avenue and 172 Renfrew Street.
 - Demolition request for 10-12 Melrose Street. A sign off was sent to the Building Department.
4. Reports of other Town Boards and Historical Organizations:
 - a. Arlington Preservation Fund (Guthrie, Schaefer)- Two loans in progress.
 - b. Arlington Historical Society (Meister)- No lectures in December. Upcoming on Sunday January 22, 2017 at 2:00pm, Objects of Evergreen Appeal with Sara Lundberg and Kenton Rhodes, to be held in Smith Museum at Jason Russell House.
 - c. Arlington Historic Districts Commission (Robinson)- Nothing to report.
 - d. Community Preservation Act Committee (Robinson)- Applications are due on December 9, 2016. Ms. Meister moved that Chair JoAnn Robinson be directed to write letters of support for the three CPA projects. Three historic preservation projects are underway in the town that received CPA grants, the Jason Russell House Study, Old Schwamb Mill and the Whittemore-Robbins Carriage House.

Historical Commission FY 2016 Budget – Nothing to report.

5. Projects Proceeding under Hearings and Approvals:
 - a. 61 Brantwood Road 7/15 Stange- Nothing to report.
 - b. 42 Henderson Street 10/15 Schaefer- Railing work in progress.
 - c. 252 Gray Street 2/16 Guthrie-Nothing to report.
 - d. 1210 Massachusetts Avenue 3/16 Schaefer- Front porch completed.
 - e. 3-11 Lakeview Street 4/16 Schaefer/Robinson- Stop Work Order.
 - f. 418 Massachusetts Avenue 8/16 Stange- Requesting a drawing regarding new location of handicap ramp.

- g. Whittemore Robbins Carriage House, Guthrie-
- h. 47 Mystic Lake Drive 9/16 Guthrie- Nothing to report.
- i. 22 Williams Street, 10/16 Robinson- Nothing to report.
- j. 18 Kensington Road- Stop Work Order
- k. 122 Claremont Avenue 11/16 Stange- Nothing to report.
- l. 187 Forest Street 12/16 Schaefer- added tonight December 6, 2016.

6. Continuing Projects

- a. Whittemore Robbins House (and outbuildings): Robinson –see discussion below.
- b. Arlington Civic Block Garden: Robinson – Nothing to report.
- c. Education/Outreach: Robinson – Nothing to report.
- d. Historic House Markers- Orders in progress. Historic House Marker approved for Edward C. Turner House Circa 1880.
- e. Web Site: Stange – Nothing to report

7. Discussion and Hearings:

8:00pm Continued Hearing for 18 Kensington Road. Attorney John Leone and Showcase Homebuilders, Paul Dalton and Alan Simao present.

Mr. Leone spoke on behalf of the owners regarding this stop work order. The owner spoke about the burden of the stop work order on them and their workers. Mr. Leone also pointed out that the appearance of the neighborhood is affected by this decision.

John Stowe, a neighbor at 16 Kensington Road, feels that the current condition of the building is a blight that neighbors might have to live with for two years.

Chair JoAnn Robinson will meet with Town Counsel, Douglas Heim for advice. Ms. Meister volunteered to come to that meeting. The possibility of holding a special meeting of the Commission after the meeting with Town Counsel was considered. A motion was made to continue the hearing. All voted in favor.

Hearing ended at 8:37pm.

8:38pm- 187 Forest Avenue with Kathy Conley, owner and Mike Bettencourt, Contractor.

The Arlington Historical Commission held a hearing on December 6, 2016 to review proposed changes to the exterior of 187 Forest Avenue. This property is listed on the Arlington Historical Commission Inventory of Significant Properties.

At the hearing the Commission voted unanimously to authorize repairs to the house and porch as follows.

The asbestos siding will be removed and replaced with fiber cement plank clapboard and trim to match the historical siding and trim. The corner boards will match the original. The new

windows on the porch will be replaced with double hung windows in a 2 over 1 grid pattern. Five windows will be installed across the front of the porch and two on the side depending on center measurements. Any replacement windows that are installed will match the proportions and trim of the existing historic windows on the house. Simulated divided lights will be used in new windows. The motion was made to accept the plans as described with the condition that when siding is removed to work, the owner will consult with the Commission monitor on the replacement of historical details that may have been lost. Dianne Schaefer, Commissioner, will be the monitor for the project.

Ended 9:02pm

9:02pm- Whittemore Robbins Carriage House.

Andrew Cannata, Architect and Jerry Sullivan, Architect came with Jim Feeney, assistant Town Manager of Arlington to discuss the current project to rehabilitate the Whittemore-Robbins Carriage House funded by an Arlington Community Preservation Act grant. Patrick Guthrie is the Commission's representative on the project committee.

The plans were well received by the Commission.

Old Business:

New Business:

The Arlington Historical Commission meeting adjourned at 10:25 pm.

The next Arlington Historical Commission meeting will be January 3, 2017

For the Arlington Historical Commission, Victoria Rose, Recording Secretary.